

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2664

In re Patent Application of

Atty Dkt. 922-108

POULTER et al.

Serial No. 09/662,158

Filed: September 14, 2000

C# M#

Title: CASCADE ARCHITECTURE AND OPERATION  
FOR PACKET-BASED COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

Date: February 22, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

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MAR 01 2002

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This is a response/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes an attachment which is hereby incorporated by reference and the signature below serves as the signature to the attachment in the absence of any other signature thereon.

**Fees are attached as calculated below:**

Total effective claims after amendment previously paid for	<b>26</b>	minus highest number 6	x \$ 18.00	\$ 108.00
Independent claims after amendment previously paid for	<b>6</b>	minus highest number 3	x \$ 84.00	\$ 252.00
If proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$280.00 (ignore improper)				\$ 0.00
Petition is hereby made to extend the current due date so as to cover the filing date of this paper and attachment(s) (\$110.00/1 month; \$400.00/2 months; \$920.00/3 months)				\$ 0.00
Terminal disclaimer enclosed, add \$ 110.00				\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> First/second submission after Final Rejection pursuant to 37 CFR 1.129(a) (\$740.00) <input type="checkbox"/> Please enter the previously unentered , filed <input type="checkbox"/> Submission attached				\$ 0.00
			<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 360.00</b>
If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims "small entity" status. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement filed herewith				-\$ 0.00
Rule 56 Information Disclosure Statement Filing Fee (\$180.00)				\$ 0.00
Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00)				\$ 0.00
Other:				0.00
			<b>TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED</b>	<b>\$ 360.00</b>

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

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NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.  
By Atty: Larry S. Nixon, Reg. No. 25,640

Signature: Larry S. Nixon

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#4  
Pre Amenda  
3-8-02

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Group: 2664

Examiner:

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\* \* \* \* \*

February 22, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please add new claims 12-26:

--12. (New) A connecting unit for use in a system comprising a plurality of network communication units having a cascade connection including said connecting unit, the connecting unit having three ports consisting of a first, second and third port, each port of the connecting unit being adapted for coupling to one of said network

communication unit and for forwarding and receiving data packets, the connecting unit

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01 FC:103  
02 FC:102

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